

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

The informality noted for claims 12, 24, and 36 has been corrected.

Claims 1-6, 8-9, 11-18, 20-21, 23-30, 32-33, and 35-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Waldin, U.S. Patent 6,094,731 in view Tamaru, U.S. Patent 4,788,637. The subject matter of claims 7, 19, and 31 have been incorporated into their respective independent claims. Accordingly, this rejection is moot.

Claims 1-6, 8-9, 11-18, 20-21, 23-30, 32-33, and 35-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Waldin, U.S. Patent 6,094,731 in view Tamaru, U.S. Patent 4,788,637, and further in view of Cozza, U.S. Patent 5,502,815. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Cozza teaches increasing the speed at which computer viruses are detected. By storing in a cache initial state information concerning the file or volume being examined for a virus. The cached scan results are used to determine whether a file should be rescanned at a later time. But this is not the same as logging the changes in an update status field.

Indeed, Cozza does not even describe update status—version levels, dates, and the like—and only keeps one entry for each file. Accordingly, the previous history relating to a given file is overwritten each time that the entry for the file is changed. As a result, a change history can not be built up.

Thus, even if the combination of Waldin, Tamaru and Cozza could be made for purposes of argument only, that combination fails to disclose all the features recited in the independent claims. Specifically, the combination fails to disclose or suggest: "log changes to said update

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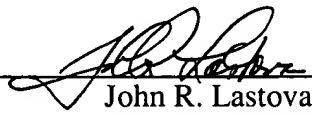
status field to create a *change history* in an *update status tracking database* to enable
identification of weaknesses within update status management based on the change history."

The application is in condition for allowance. An early notice to that effect is earnestly
solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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